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# Account of the Siege

## Of the Famous City of

# DUNKIRK,

By the English Forces, &c.

Together with the Scituation, Natural Strength, and Antient and Modern Fortifications  
3. Sept. 1692 of the said Place.

**D**unkirk, or *Duynskirk*, is a very considerable Place now in the possession of the *French*, seated on the Sea, and adjudged to be about the bigness of *Cambridge*: Beyond the Old Town there hath been since it came into the Hands of the *French*, great Works drawn, which augment the Town above one half. There is a new Trench cut for a Mile together through the Splinter Sands, which will, upon the Head of the Tide, receive 150 Vessels of 70 Guns each; and on the *West* side of the Harbour is raised a vast pil'd and plank'd Work, to intercept and lodge the Sands. It's a Place of very great Strength, but much added by the late Fortifications, which are very large, and the Bastion towards the *North* is most stately. It is well Built, and very Rich and Populous, and particularly recommended for the neatness and regularity of the Streets. There is an *English* Nunnery, and the *Franciscans* have a Cloyster for Persons of both Sexes. At the Mouth of the Haven stands a strong Castle, on which are planted 200 pieces of Cannon. *Dunkirk* is Scituate 54 Miles *West* of *Ghent*, 23 Miles from *Ipres*, 10 from *Graveling*, 16 from *Newport*, and 24 from *Ostend*; its Longitude is 21. 30. and Latitude 51. 7. In May 57. Six hundred *English* Infantry, all Chosen Men, under the command of Sir *John Reynolds* as General, and Collonel *Morgan* as Major General, arrived in *Pricardy* from *England*, where they were joyned by the Forces commanded by the Marshal *Turin*, the Protector was the more induced to this Enterprize, because the King of *Spain* had invited King *Charles* into his Dominion. Before their Embarquement, they Rendezvouzed at *Black-Heath*, where Mr. *Hugh Peters* gave them a Sermon for encouragement, and were Shipped with a Months Pay in Hand, and all new Red Coats, About the middle of *September*, the *English* Forces and those of *Turin*, advanced into the *Spanish* Territories, and according to agreement, fate down before *Mardike*, a strong Fortress, and put themselves between it and *Dunkirk*. General *Mountague*, the *English* Admiral, Riding before the *Splinter* with a Fleet of War, it was not long before a continued Battery made the Besieged quit the Fort, which so incommoded them, when taken by the *English*, that they were obliged to yeild the Town to Mercy, *Turin* not allowing them better Terms, because they and refused his first Offers. *Mardike* was presently put into the Hands of the *English* according to agreement, soon after this, the two Armies came down to *Dunkirk*, resolving to take it before they stirred, which shortly Alarm'd the *Spaniards* in all their Quarters, whereupon Don *John* of *Austria*, considering the importance of this Place, as being the Key of *Flanders*, and a Frontier of *France*, so that if the *English* Possessed it, they might have an opportunity to Conquer all *Flanders*, by the Forces that might be continually Landed from *England*, with the supplies of Money, which this Town, by their Booties, brought into the Treasury. Upon these and like Motives, he resolved to attempt its Relief, though with the hazard of his whole Army, but whilst he is getting

them together, the *English* had in a short time run their Trenches to the *Spanish* Counterscarpe, and still approached higher the Wall, which the *Spaniards* having notice off, and fearing their Relief might come too late, he made all possible haste to its Assistance; The better to effect which, Don *John* their General dreins most of their Garrisons, and compleats a Body of 15000 Men, with which he Marches with all Speed through *Fuernes*, and Incamps within a Mile and an half of *Tureins* Quarters, of which, the *Confederates* having Advice, immediately dislodg'd with a Body of about 16000 Men, leaving still enough to guard the Trenches, and make good the approaches, if the Towns-Men should attempt a Salley. With this Detachment of Men, and ten pieces of Cannon, *Turein* faces the *Spaniards*: The *English* Foot were drawn up in Four Battalions, and were Order'd to give the First Assault upon four other Battalions of *Spanish* Foot, who had the Advantage of the Ground, being placed upon three rising Hillocks, and was seconded by Don *John* himself.

The *English* were commanded by the Lord *Lockhart*, who having first ordered the Forelorn Hope of 300 Musqueteers to mount the Sand-Hills, together with his own Regiment of Foot, under the Collonel *Fenwicke*, they stoutly maintained their Ground, though the *Spaniards* play'd down continual Volleys of Shot among them: He then sent another Brigade to their Relief, who immediately fell in with the But end of their Musquets among the Enemies Foot, and they not being used to such Club-Law, left the Field and Fled; whereupon *Turein's* Horse seeing the good fortune of the *English* Foot, fell in with the *Spanish* Horse, few of whom stood the Charge.

In this Battle a great part of the Lord *Lockhart's* Regiment were either Slain or Wounded, and Lieutenant Col. *Fenwick* was killed by a Musquet Bullet. The Slaughter was great, the Horse being very severe in the pursuit, so that near 3000 of the Enemy were Slain, and many Noblemen Killed, Wounded, and taken Prisoners. This total Rout of the Relievers Army, put despair into the *Dunkirkers*, who could now expect no relief either by Land or Sea, and Don *John* not being able to recruit his Army by Land: Yet the Marquess of *Loda* their Governour, to demonstrate some courage, made frequent strong Sallies upon the *French* Quarters, which seem'd to proceed rather from despair than Valour, for he who was the Life of the Business, received a Wound in one of them, of which he shortly Died, and with him, the Enemy lost Possession of the Town of *Dunkirk*, for after the *Confederates* had played 14 Days successively with their Mortar-Pieces upon the Place, the Besieged grew weary of the Sport, and beat a Parley, and the next Day the Town was deliver'd up to them.

The *English* being in the Possession of *Dunkirk*, the Fortifications were repair'd, and several Additional ones made by Order of the Protector.

F I N I S.